Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 DHA-05 AID-05 IGA-02 TRSE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /075 W

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O R 232125Z AUG 77 FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5974 INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CONFIDENTIAL PORT AU PRINCE 3137

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (YOUNG, ANDREW) HA SUBJ: YOUNG VISIT FOLLOW-UP

REF: STATE 198352

- 1. YOUNG VISIT TO HAITI FOCUSED ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY ON HUMAN RIGHTS. AMBASSADOR YOUNG MADE NO EXPLICIT COMMITMENTS TO GOVERNMENT ALTHOUGH HE DID ELICIT TWO EXPLICIT COMMITMENTS FROM REPEAT FROM GOVERNMENT: (A) PROMISE TO INVITE IAHRC TO VISIT HAITI; AND (B) PROMISE TO LOOK INTO AND TAKE ACTION ON 21 PRISONERS NAMES IN LETTER AMBASSADOR YOUNG GAVE TO PRESIDENT.
- 2. AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S VISIT HAS GREATLY REINFORCED HAITIAN (PUBLIC AND PRIVATE) APPRECIATION OF SERIOUSNESS WHICH U.S. ATTACHES TO HUMAN RIGHTS AND IN EFFECT GIVEN SUBSTANCE TO ENTIRE RANGE OF HUMAN RIGHTS POLICIES WHICH EMBASSY HAS BEEN URGING ON GOH IN PAST 2-3 YEARS. HAITIANS ALSO BETTER APPRECIATE THAT CONTINUATION OF U.S. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE WILL RELATE TO CONTINUED HAITIAN PROGRESS IN HUMAN RIGHTS.
- 3. ACCOUNTABLE ITEMS: CONFIDENTIAL

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(A) EMBASSY BELIEVES YOUNG VISIT HAS SET STAGE FOR RENEWED DISCUSSIONS WITH GOH ON HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES AND GIVEN US ASSURANCE WE WILL HAVE EVEN MORE ATTENTIVE AUDIENCE. AMBASSADOR JONES' FIRST SUBSTANTIVE CALL ON PRESIDENT SHOULD PROVIDE EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO FOLLOW UP ON YOUNG VISIT EMPHASIS ON HUMAN RIGHTS.

(B) IN CONTRAST TO OTHER COUNTRIES VISITED, AMBASSADOR YOUNG MADE ONLY GLANCING REFERENCE (IN PRESS CONFERENCE) TO CONCEPT OF DEVELOPING CARIBBEAN BASIN POLICY AND ONLY THEN IN CONTEXT OF HUMAN RIGHTS. WE BELIEVE GOH SHOULD BE GIVEN MORE FORMAL BRIEFING ON THIS IDEA SINCE (1) HAITI IS PART OF CARIBBEAN BASIN, (2) IT IS ONE OF MOST POPULOUS STATES IN THE BASIN, AND (3) IT CAN AND SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO MAKE PROGRESS WITHIN CONTEXT OF CARIBBEAN BASIN CONCEPT. PLEASE PROVIDE GUIDELINES WE COULD USE WITH GOH. MEADE

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